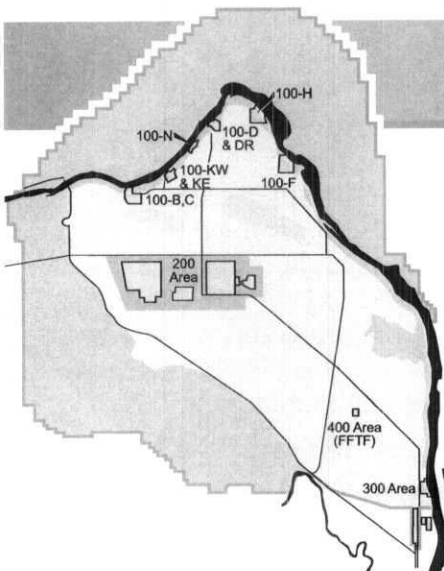


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# Cleanup of the Hanford Site 324 and 327 Buildings

U.S. Department of Energy - Washington State Department of Ecology - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



The U.S. Department of Energy, Washington State Department of Ecology, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Tri-Party Agreement agencies) would like your input on the *Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis #2 for the 300 Area*, DOE/RL-2005-84. This engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) evaluates alternatives for final disposition of the 324 and 327 buildings, and ancillary facilities located in the 300 Area of the Hanford Site.

## Background

In March 1943, construction of a nuclear fuel fabrication complex began at the Hanford Site's 300 Area along the western bank of the Columbia River. The 300 Area is located about one mile north of the city of Richland. In addition to housing the Hanford Site fuel fabrication plants, the 300 Area was the center for many of the Hanford Site research and development projects. In connection with these activities, chemical process laboratories, test reactors, and numerous ancillary support structures were constructed. The 324 and 327 buildings were constructed as new research and laboratory facilities in the 1950s and 1960s to support defense and energy research. New support and laboratory facilities were added in the 1970s for further research on energy, waste management, biological sciences, and environmental sciences. Coinciding with transition of the sitewide mission from defense production to environmental cleanup in 1989, the focus of the 300 Area operations shifted to continued research and cleanup of contamination from past operations.

This is the second EE/CA prepared for disposition of facilities in the 300 Area. In October, 2004, the Tri-Party agencies issued *Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis #1 for the 300 Area*, DOE/RL-2001-30 for public review. That EE/CA recommended facility deactivation followed by

deactivation, decontamination, decommissioning, and demolition for 82 buildings and structures located in 300 Area. The 324 and 327 buildings have been grouped together because they are similar in size and complexity.

## What is an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis?

An Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) evaluates feasible and cost-effective alternatives for proposed removal actions, and recommends a specific removal action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). A Removal Action is an action taken over a short period of time to address a release or threatened release of hazardous substances. The proposed action for the 324 and 327 buildings and ancillary facilities is a non-time critical removal action. The EE/CA outlines the goals of the removal action, identifies and evaluates three removal action alternatives, and recommends an alternative for disposition of the facilities.

## What cleanup actions were evaluated?

The removal action for the 324 and 327 buildings and ancillary facilities must protect human health and the environment, and meet the removal action objectives identified in the evaluation. Based on the criteria, the following removal action alternatives were evaluated:

**No Action** – "No action" is provided as a baseline alternative against which other alternatives are compared. Under the no action alternative, Hanford Site access controls would be maintained to help prevent worker or public entry to the contaminated facilities. No other specific controls would be established for the facilities.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

The Tri-Party agencies want your feedback on the 300 Area EE/CA #2.

The public comment period is  
February 27 - April 3, 2006

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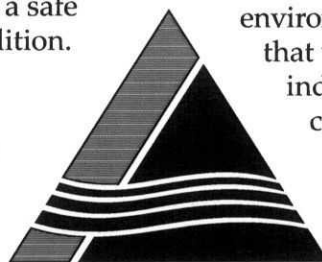
**Deactivation, Decontamination, Decommissioning, and Demolition** – The goal of the decontamination and decommissioning alternative is to demolish the buildings and structures and properly dispose of the resulting wastes. The action includes deactivating the facilities by removing physical, chemical, and radiological barriers to demolition. Deactivation would be followed by decontamination, decommissioning, and demolition of the buildings and structures, removal of contaminated materials, waste load-out and transportation, and disposal of wastes at the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility or other appropriate disposal facility in accordance with waste acceptance criteria.

**Long-term surveillance and maintenance** – The goal of long-term surveillance and maintenance alternative is to sustain the buildings and structures in a safe condition for up to 6 years until final demolition. To the extent possible, surveillance and maintenance (S&M) activities would be performed to minimize the potential for an environmental release and to protect the workers while maintaining compliance with applicable state and federal regulations

and DOE orders. During the S&M phase, existing institutional controls would be maintained to notify area workers of potential hazards and restrict public access to the 300 Area complex. Major repairs, such as re-roofing and shoring up structural components, would be performed as necessary to ensure facility integrity for containment of hazardous substances.

### **What is the preferred alternative?**

The Tri-Party agencies have selected deactivation, decontamination, decommissioning and demolition as the preferred alternative for the 324 and 327 buildings and ancillary facilities. The estimated cost for the recommended alternative, including waste transportation and disposal costs, is \$59.9 million. The alternative would protect human health and the environment by removing all contaminants to levels that would allow use of the land surface for industrial purposes. This alternative supports completion of Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-94-03, which requires disposition of the 324 Building, the 324 stack (324B), and the 327 Building by September 2010.



*Tri-Party Agreement*

## ***How you may become involved***

The 30-day public comment period for the 300 Area EE/CA #2 is February 27-April 3, 2006. The U. S. Department of Energy and U. S. Environmental Protection Agency would like your feedback on this document and will consider all comments before finalizing it. **To request a copy of the document, or to submit comments in a written or electronic format, please contact:**



**Rudy Guercia**

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**At this time, no public meeting has been scheduled for EE/CA #2. To request a public meeting in your area on the 300 Area EE/CA #2, please contact Rudy Guercia, above, on or before March 9, 2006.**

The document is also available for review at the Public Information Repositories listed below.

## Hanford Public Information Repository Locations

### Portland

Portland State University  
Branford Price and Millar Library  
934 SW Harrison  
Attn: Judy Andrews (503) 725-4126

### Seattle

University of Washington  
Suzzallo Library  
Government Publications Division  
Attn: Eleanor Chase (206) 543-4664

### Richland

U.S. Department of Energy Public Reading Room  
Washington State University, Tri-Cities  
Consolidated Information Center, Room 101-L  
2770 University Drive  
Attn: Janice Parthree (509) 372-7443

### Spokane

Gonzaga University  
Foley Center  
East 502 Boone  
Attn: Linda Pierce (509) 323-6110



**Information Repository web site address:** <http://www2.hanford.gov/arpir/>

This document can be viewed online at <http://www.hanford.gov/public/calendar>  
(under the Public Comment Period section)

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